

EC votes down aid for Israel

STRASBOURG (AP) — The European Parliament Wednesday rejected a European Community (EC) financial aid package for Israel to protest Israeli treatment of the Palestinian population living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. The parliament rejected the EC's agreement to provide Israel with low-interest development loans of up to \$3 million European currency units (\$76.9 million) over the next four years. The motion to pass the agreement received 143 votes in favor and 205 against. In separate votes on the sole of Israeli farm produce in Europe. It was the first time the parliament rejected EC agreements since it was given the power last year to ratify foreign treaties. All three documents now have to go back to the EC community capitals for renegotiation, which could delay implementation for several months. The vote represented a sharp rebuke to Israel for its policy in the occupied territories. Many deputies have also criticized Israel for breaching an unrelated pledge to allow Palestinians to export their farm produce directly to Europe. Much of the criticism on the floor of the parliament was directed at Israel's harsh methods to quell the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank.

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Egypt briefs Arabs on peace efforts

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmar Abdul Meguid briefed ambassadors of 15 Arab countries Wednesday on talks last week with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. The meeting with the ambassadors was the first such gathering in 11 years. All Arab states except Oman, Sudan and Somalia closed their Cairo embassies after Egypt signed its 1979 treaty with Israel.

U.S. lifts China sanctions

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government is lifting sanctions against sales of new high technology to China, satisfied that Peking is not selling Silkworm anti-ship missiles to Iran, a U.S. official said Wednesday. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Secretary of State George Shultz informed Chinese Foreign Minister Wan Xueqian during a meeting Tuesday afternoon that the restrictions would no longer apply. (See page 2).

4 killed in Aeroflot hijack attempt

MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet air stewardess and three passengers were killed when "armed criminals" tried to hijack an Aeroflot airliner on an internal flight, TASS reported Wednesday. The news agency said most of the hijackers were killed in the attempt Tuesday and the remainder had been captured. It did not say how many hijackers had been involved. TASS said the attempt took place during a flight by a TU-154 en route from Leningrad to Kursk. It said the hijackers "aimed to escape abroad." It did not say where the attempt took place or where the plane finally landed.

Warsaw Pact plans meeting

PRAGUE (AP) — Foreign ministers of the seven Warsaw Pact member countries are scheduled to meet in Sofia, Bulgaria, at the end of March; the Czechoslovak state news agency CTK reported Wednesday.

New constitution for Tunisia

TUNIS (AP) — Tunisia's National Assembly has unanimously approved in first reading a new constitution which will do away with the concept of "president for life." The new constitution, approved late Tuesday night, will take effect after it is approved by two-thirds of the National Assembly. The vote to approve the constitution is expected later this year. Former president-for-life Habib Bourguiba, who ruled the country without interruption for 32 years following the end of French colonial rule in 1956, was ousted Nov. 7 by his prime minister, Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali.

Iran wants to join IDB

TUNIS (R) — Iran has applied to join the 44-member Islamic Development Bank (IDB), IDB president Ahmad Mohammad Ali said Wednesday. An Iranian delegation attended an annual IDB board of governors meeting here Monday as observers and Tehran has applied to join the bank, he told Reuters. Iran's application to join the Arab-dominated bank must go before an IDB board of directors meeting in Jeddah next month.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جordan Times يومية سياسية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية (الراي)

UNRWA complains of lack of security

NICOSIA (AP) — The United Nations agency responsible for aid to refugees in Lebanon said Wednesday it was still unable to restore its operations fully because of the "precious" security situation. A statement by the Vienna-based United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) said the release of two of its staff members allowed it "to reconsider resuming some of its activities" affected by the kidnapping. The agency is making contacts with the Lebanese government and other parties to seek improved security arrangements for the agency's staff, said the statement. The UNRWA statement said that "now that the international staff is not totally preoccupied with resolving the kidnapping crisis," it has gradually increased the number of foreign staff in Lebanon and resumed interrupted relief activities. "The security situation in South Lebanon, however remains precarious, and UNRWA cannot fully restore its operations in Lebanon without minimum security guarantees," the statement said.

2 more Palestinians join martyrs as revolt enters fourth month

SILWAD, occupied West Bank (Agencies)

— Two Palestinian boys died and several were wounded in clashes with Israelis Wednesday as the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza entered its fourth month.

Mohammed Osman Ibrahim Paris, 18, was shot when stone-throwing demonstrators clashed with troops at the village of Silwad, relatives told Reuters.

Witnesses quoted by Reuters said soldiers at a roadside delayed relatives from taking Faria to hospital for at least half an hour. He later died of his wounds, they said.

Palestinian sources said a second boy, 19-year-old Jamil Hizaj, was shot dead in the village of Turmus Ayya, apparently by Jewish settlers.

Ramallah hospital staff said he died in surgery from a gunshot wound.

The village is next to Mazraa Al Sharqiyeh where Jews from a nearby settlement were implicated in the killing of a Palestinian Tuesday.

At least nine Palestinians were

taken to hospital with gunshot wounds in Ramallah and Nablus after clashes with troops. They said seven of them were shot in a riot at Faraa Palestinian refugee camp.

In the West Bank village of Biddu troops arrested several Palestinians involved in an attempt to stab an Israeli soldier, the army spokesman said.

Settlers on rampage

Jewish settlers at the Ariel settlement clashed with Palestinians during the night after a stone-throwing incident, eyewitnesses told Reuters.

Settlers blocked a main road and after chasing two Palestinian drivers from their cars, set the vehicles alight. Sixteen more cars were damaged by the settlers, an eyewitness said.

Protests continued throughout

(Continued on page 5)

Shamir blocks cabinet vote, wants U.S. to drop peace plan

TEL AVIV (Agencies)

— Israel's divided government Wednesday failed to endorse a new American peace plan for the Middle East and a close aide to hardline Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said the prime minister would try to convince American leaders in Washington next week to scrap the new proposal.

Shamir is opposed to key elements of the American proposals, particularly the convening of an international peace conference which is supported by Peres.

"The government is split 50-50. We firmly believe the Shultz plan is a good plan. It's presently the only plan and the only hope to carry on with the peace process that has been torpedoed," said Ezer Weizman, a Labour minister-without-portfolio after the meeting.

He said Shamir take a "negative answer" to Washington for talks with President Reagan and Shultz March 14. Shultz has asked for Israel's response to his plan by that time and Labour

leaders had hoped to commit Shamir to accept.

'Scrap the plan'

A senior Shamir aide said later Shamir would try to convince U.S. leaders to scrap peace initiative as dangerous to both countries.

"The first priority is to get the Americans to drop the (new) plan, which is a danger to both countries, and to return to the good old Camp David agreements which are in the best interests of both countries," he said.

"Shamir successfully defeated attempts by the Labour Party to force a vote in the 10-member inner cabinet on the plan offered by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who has accepted the Shultz plan, attacked Shamir's refusal in a parliament speech.

"We might miss this historic opportunity, and we won't have an answer, not for our generation and not for those to come, as to why we became afraid of peace," said Peres. "Why did we reject the outstretched hand because of imaginary fears?"

PLO non-committal on reported Walters meeting

TUNIS (Agencies) — Jamil Helial, head of the Information Department of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Wednesday refused to confirm or deny a CBS report that Vernon A. Walters, U.S. delegate to the United Nations, secretly met with top PLO officials in Tunis last week.

Helial told the AP: "Even if such a meeting took place, it would have been meaningless because the American attitude toward the PLO has not changed."

"We are prepared to meet representatives of any government, anywhere and at any time, including that of the United States or Israel, provided only that the government concerned recognizes the PLO," Helial added.

Asked explicitly whether or not Walters met PLO officials in Tunis, Helial replied: "I can neither confirm nor deny this report."

Walters himself denied the reported meeting following his return to Washington.

Robert Pelletreau, American ambassador to Tunisia, also denied the report.

"I was with Walters at every meeting he had in Tunisia and I can assure you he met no Palestinians," Pelletreau said.

In its report, CBS quoted senior PLO officials as saying Walters met a high-ranking PLO leader in a private home in a

seaside town near Tunis Saturday, just after Secretary of State George Shultz gave details of the new U.S. Middle East peace plan to governments in the region.

In a report from Paris, CBS said Walters had met secretly with PLO leaders at least twice before, saying the Nixon administration called on Walters, who speaks fluent Arabic, to establish a secret channel to the PLO.

That was before September 1975, when the U.S. government gave Israel a written guarantee that American officials would not negotiate with members of the PLO.

Former U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young was fired for holding a 15-minute meeting with a PLO official in 1979.

CBS said Walters met openly with Tunisian government officials but the details of his talk with the PLO leader remain a closely guarded secret.

Walters himself denied the reported meeting following his return to Washington.

Robert Pelletreau, American ambassador to Tunisia, also denied the report.

"I was with Walters at every meeting he had in Tunisia and I can assure you he met no Palestinians," Pelletreau said.

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Formal moves launched for Arab summit

TUNIS (Agencies) — Chadli Benjedid, secretary general of the Arab League, formally notified the 21 member governments Wednesday of the Algerian proposal to convene a special summit meeting to support the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

League spokesman Mohammad Maghribi said a simple majority of the membership was enough to convene the meeting proposed by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid.

Maghribi said the site of the proposed summit would be determined after the members had replied.

Seven Arab League members have informally endorsed the demand for a special summit thus far: Algeria, Tunisia, Sudan, Kuwait, Jordan, North Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

On Feb. 28, Benjedid called for a special summit which would do more than just "take note of the situation in the occupied territories."

An Algerian envoy presented the request Tuesday to Kili in Tunis.

Benjedid has sharply criticized what he said was Arab silence over the uprising and called for practical steps in support of the West Bank and Gaza protests.

League foreign ministers held an emergency meeting on the uprising in Tunis in January.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat urged that an Arab League summit be held in the first week of April at a meeting here with Kili Tuesday, the PLO news agency WAFA reported Wednesday.

The summit should enable "our Arab Nation to play its effective national role in supporting the uprising and the struggle of the Palestinian people," he said.

"The best thing would be if they put the whole plan aside. But we have to be practical and realize they will probably not drop it as a whole, so we will have to see about changes and we know they are ready to make changes," he said.

The aide said Shamir did not plan to offer a direct reply to the plan while in the United States, but would do so shortly after his return.

The prime minister is not obliged to give an answer during his visit. He will try to convince the Americans, discuss the issue on his return with the minister and bring Israel's answer to the U.S. in the shortest time after, the official said.

Shamir's spokesman Avi Pazner said Tuesday the prime minister would take his own peace plan to Washington. The official said it would be based heavily on the 1978 Camp David agreements.

He said Shamir take a "negative answer" to Washington for talks with President Reagan and Shultz March 14. Shultz has asked for Israel's response to his plan by that time and Labour



His Majesty King Hussein is seen off Wednesday from Baghdad by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and (right) is received upon arrival in Kuwait by



the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah (Petra photos)

King returns after talks with Iraqi, Kuwaiti leaders on American plan

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein returned home Wednesday after visits to Iraq and Kuwait and talks with their leaders on the latest developments in the Middle East, the new American proposal for Arab-Israeli peace and the escalated "war of cities" between Iran and Iraq in their seven-and-a-half-year-old conflict.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the King, who flew to Baghdad Tuesday and held talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein during an overnight stay in the Iraqi capital before visiting Kuwait Wednesday, explained to President Hussein and Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah Jordan's position on the American plan.

The Jordanian position, Petra quoted the King as saying, was based on the united Arab stand reached during the extraordinary Arab summit held in Amman last November. The summit renewed the Arab call for a United Nations-sponsored international conference on the Middle East.

(Continued on page 5)

Missile attacks, air raids continue unabated in spiralling 'war of cities'

BAHRAYN (Agencies) — Iran said it fired two missiles into Baghdad, Iraq said only one missile exploded in the city, demolishing houses and stores, 35 people on the 10th day of a long-range missile duel. Iraq said Baghdad residents died when a missile wrecked homes and stores.

A Soviet official acknowledged his country had furnished Iraq with missiles but said their range was too short to strike Iranian cities and that they were not supposed to be modernized.

In the Gulf, shipping officials confirmed that Iraqi warplanes Tuesday attacked the Cypriot-flagged, 101,977-ton tanker Fethiye, breaking a three-week lull in the "tanker war."

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Iraq fired two missiles at Tehran. Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said 35 people were killed and 120 wounded Wednesday and in another missile raid the night before.

The Soviet proposal was made Monday, Moscow's U.N. ambassador Alexander Belonogov also said the council could appoint a special representative of the secretary general for constant contacts between Tehran, Bagdad and the United Nations.

There has been no response from Iraq so far. But Bagdad has said that its missile attacks on Iran would continue until Tehran accepts Security Council Resolution 598 which calls for an immediate ceasefire and negotiations to end the conflict.

Iraq said Iranian shells rained down on Basra during the night, killing "many civilians," and the shelling later spread to Qurnah north of Basra, and Zubair south of Basra.

It said the Iranian shells rained down on densely populated residential areas in Basra and

(Continued on page 5)

Swedish foreign minister begins visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson arrived here Wednesday on an official three-day visit.

In a statement upon arrival, Andersson said he was hoping the visit would allow him a chance to discuss Middle East problems and means of developing Swedish-Jordanian relations.

"Sweden maintains excellent relations with Jordan and there are prospects of expanding bilateral cooperation in the future," the minister said.

"Sweden continues to support all efforts for a comprehensive Middle East peace settlement and backs the Palestinian people's legitimate right to self-determination," Andersson said.

Andersson, who arrived here after a visit to Israel and the occupied West Bank, said

visit, saying: "I don't have anybody in mind. We're not sure yet."

The Swedish government supports the PLO's role as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the envoy said.

Andersson was scheduled to hold talks with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Foreign Minister Tahar Masi, Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Marwan Dudi and may also be received by His Majesty King Hussein, Lonnback said.

Commenting on the U.S. peace initiative put forward by Secretary of State George Shultz during a swing through the region last week, Lonnback said: "We neither welcome nor reject the peace plan."

U.S. secures strong Chinese support for arms embargo on Iran

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States says it has secured strong Chinese support for a U.N. arms embargo against Iran to force compliance with a Security Council resolution demanding a ceasefire in the nearly eight-year-old Gulf war.

White House spokesman Marvin Fitzwater said the support was offered by Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xuevani during a meeting with President Ronald Reagan Tuesday.

He said Wu told Reagan that China was very concerned about the course of the war, which in

recent weeks has seen Iran and Iraq launch deadly missile attacks on each other's cities.

Fitzwater said Reagan stressed the need for decisive action to end the war and Wu had replied that China would favour an Iran arms embargo "if the overwhelming majority of the Security

Council believes that it should be adopted."

The phrasing of Wu's statement was not seen as a qualified endorsement of an arms embargo, the White House official said. "It was our reaction, the president's reaction, that this was a very positive sign, a very strong expression of support, and one that frankly we hope the Soviet Union would emulate," Fitzwater said.

The United States and Britain have been pressing the other permanent members of the Security Council — China, France and the Soviets — to agree to a draft resolution calling for a ban on arms sales to Iran to back up last July's ceasefire order, which Tehran has not accepted unequivocally.

Bahrain has said it would accept the ceasefire if Tehran also complies, but Iran has insisted that blame for the war be established before it would accept the order.

Posing for pictures with Wu, Reagan said Tuesday, "We have a very cordial relationship between our two countries, and we want to continue it."

Wu indicated Chinese officials were "very concerned about how the war was going, concerned about the recent attacks on the cities in Iraq and Iran," Fitzwater said.

The foreign minister urged "comprehensive implementation" of the ceasefire resolution, prompting Reagan to say that "decisive action" also was needed on the arms-embargo measure, Fitzwater said.

In response, Wu said that "if the overwhelming majority of the Security Council believed it should be adopted, including the arms embargo, that they are in favour, that there was no difficulty on their part in terms of that second resolution."

Fitzwater said while the Kremlin has been generally supportive on the arms embargo issue, it had not come through "with the kind of direct support that would allow us to go ahead."

The coalition, formed after the 1984 election, is comprised of



EVERY TRICK IN THE BOOK: An Israeli soldier uses mace, a temporarily disabling chemical agent which causes tears, dizziness, immobilisation and sometimes nausea, against Palestinian women staging a march Tuesday in Ramallah to mark International Women's Day.

'Pro-Chinese' elements behind anti-Soviet sentiment in Iran

WASHINGTON — The riot against the Soviet embassy in Tehran Sunday may have been instigated by pro-Chinese opponents of Iran's growing cooperation with the Soviet Union.

The pro-Chinese faction in the Iranian leadership is led by Majlis Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, who is also the patron of the Revolutionary Guards. He was a driving force in arranging the enormous arms supplies from China — an estimated \$7 billion worth over the past eight years — with which Iran has prosecuted the Gulf war.

However, President Ali Khamenei, who studied in Moscow's Patriarch Lumumba University and Prime Minister Mir Hussein Musavi — Rafsanjani's main rivals in the leadership — have pushed a long time for closer relations with Moscow instead. Their stock has been rising in recent months as popular discontent with the burdens of the war has been growing.

Khamenei and Musavi have in the past reportedly opposed costly frontal attacks against Iraq. The far-reaching transport, oil trading and industrial development agreements signed with Moscow last year suggest that they are winning arguments in Tehran.

Arab diplomats in Moscow have also been warning that a new Soviet-Iranian defence pact may be in the works. For their part, Iranian diplomats have stated openly that a Soviet pull-out from Afghanistan is the one thing standing in the way of closer relations.

Moscow and Peking both have been jockeying diplomatically to remain in Tehran's good graces. Both powers have dragged their feet to delay a U.N. Security Council plan for an arms embargo on Iran for ignoring Security Council Resolution 598 calling for a Gulf war ceasefire.

The Soviets fear a hostile Iran could prove a deadly impetus to their already restive 50 million strong Turkic Muslim minority. But Iran as an ally would allow the Soviets to put a stranglehold on the West's oil supplies coming out of the Gulf.

China has been cultivating Muslim support in efforts to draw a "bamboo-Koranic curtain" across Asia. The Chinese continually aided the resistance fighting the Soviet forces in Afghanistan, and they ended persecution of Muslims carried out during the cultural revolution in China's far-west Xinjiang province — The Washington Times.

Posing for pictures with Wu, Reagan said Tuesday, "We have a very cordial relationship between our two countries, and we want to continue it."

Wu indicated Chinese officials were "very concerned about how the war was going, concerned about the recent attacks on the cities in Iraq and Iran," Fitzwater said.

The group, known as the National Jewish Coalition, said the senators "operated in haste" and were "inserting themselves into the internal politics of Israel."

The group issued its statement after a meeting in the Oval Office with Reagan. However, Richard Fox, chairman of the organisation, said the president did not discuss the peace process or the violence in the Israeli-occupied territories.

He said the meeting with Reagan lasted only 12 or 13 minutes and the president's comments were "really more of a ceremonial statement. There was no forum for discussion of the issue."

Fox said the senators "are dealing in an area which is very sensitive at this time and essentially inserting themselves into the internal politics of Israel."

On Monday, the White House had said it welcomed the senators' statement, in which they criticised Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his Likud Party, suggesting they may be blocking efforts to reach a peace settlement in the Middle East.

Asked about that letter, Fox said: "Our belief is that those distinguished senators — all of whom are friends of Israel — operated in haste."

He complained that they based their criticism on a report in the New York Times "rather than direct statements from the prime minister." The letter had said the senators were dismayed to read in the newspaper that Shamir had opposed giving up any territory, saying, "this expression of territory for peace is not accepted by me."

Fox said the senators "are dealing in an area which is very sensitive at this time and essentially inserting themselves into the internal politics of Israel."

In Washington, the State Department issued a strong warning Tuesday against Americans travelling in Lebanon.

Freed Oxfam official to remain in S. Lebanon

SIDON (Agencies) — British relief official Peter Coleridge said Wednesday that he and a Syrian aide, freed by Palestinians who held them for six days, would stay in Sidon to complete an inspection tour of relief operations.

"We'll stay in Sidon for a few days to continue our interrupted mission," Coleridge, 44, told the AP.

Asked about his plans, he said: "I won't disclose my travel plans for security reasons."

Palestinian guerrillas of Abu Nidal's Fateh-Revolutionary Council (FRC) released Coleridge and Omar Trabulsi, 31, Oxfam's Lebanon representative, in the southern port city of Sidon Tuesday.

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HOME BRIEFS

AJLOUNI: Minister of Tourism Zuhair Al Ajlouni Wednesday discussed with Yugoslav Ambassador in Amman Zoran Popovic, bilateral cooperation especially in tourism. Also Wednesday the minister discussed with the Czechoslovak Charge d'Affaires in Amman Emil Hrusecky cooperation in tourism.

NO SMOKING DAY: The Jordanian National Society for Combating Smoking has praised a World Health Organisation (WHO) call on world nations to observe April 7 as a no-smoking day. Society President Dr. Zuhair Mahlas said that it was an excellent initiative, clearly urging people to give up this harmful habit. Jordan is among 13 nations whose national societies had voiced support for the WHO decision.

HOMES COLLAPSE: A number of old homes and retaining walls in Tafleah collapsed during the past two days due to continuous rain fall. A public safety committee met Wednesday and decided to embark on immediate work to repair the roads, and heard requests from the public about other repair work.

JUSTICE TALKS: The Cabinet Wednesday formed Jordan's delegation to the Arab Justice Ministers conference, which will be held in Kuwait on April 2. Jordan's delegation to the conference will be led by Justice Minister Riyad Al Shaka'a.

SCHOOL EXAMS: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouran Al Hindawi has fixed June 19 as the date for taking the admission exams to the secondary cycle at all schools throughout the country. Applications for the exams can be obtained as of March 15 through March 31.

JAIL SENTENCE: The military court has sentenced Hanna Jamil Abdullah Ibrahim to six months in prison for embezzling public funds. The military governor endorsed the sentence.

Papoulias denies reports of rift in Athens over Turkey

ATHENS (AP) — Foreign Minister Carlos Papoulias has denied reports of dissent among senior ministry officials over Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou's recent efforts to improve relations with Turkey.

"I categorically state that there is no disagreement between the political leadership of the Foreign Ministry or between me and any other cabinet member," Papoulias said.

Papoulias spoke at a news conference Tuesday with deputy foreign ministers Theodoros Panagiotis and Yiannis Kapsis.

"Despite the demands, you insisted: I want to say that I have the right to be sick when I am sick," Papoulias told reporters. A failure to cancel would have "resulted in serious damage to my health."

The foreign minister said Papandreou's meetings with Ozal were "not a solution" to Greece's problems with Turkey but attempts to open a new road in Greek-Turkish relations create a new climate."

longstanding disputes over military control of the Aegean and over Cyprus.

But relations have been steadily improving since the two leaders met for the first time in Davos, Switzerland, at the end of January.

Reports of disagreement over the rapprochement between the two countries surfaced last week when the government announced that Papoulias had cancelled trips to France and West Germany because of "illness."

The three officials held the briefing after widespread reports of dissent within the Foreign Ministry following Papandreou's meeting with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in Brussels last week.

The two leaders agreed to further improve relations and seek permanent solutions to their countries' problems. The two quarreling NATO allies have

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PROGRAMME ONE

14:00 Koran Programme Review
14:25 Children programmes
14:30 Mop and Smitf
14:45 Soccer: Iraq vs. UAE (Live transmission)

17:15 Wonderful World of Magic
17:35 French teaching programme
18:00 Men and Machine
18:30 He's the Mayor
18:45 Health and Life (local)
19:35 World News Reports
19:45 Programmes Review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Review of next week's programmes

22:00 Arabic film
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Closed down

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Rue Carrot
18:30 La chance aux chansons
19:00 News in French
19:15 French Varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Kate and Allie
21:00 Rags to Riches
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "Continental Divide"

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07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsbreak
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 Country Music
11:30 News in French
11:45 News in Arabic
12:00 News in Hebrew
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24:00 News in English

BBC WORLD SERVICE

619, 730, 1323 kHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:38 Classical Record Review 06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial News 07:00 World News 07:09 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 Pechter Choice 07:45 The World Today 08:50 Newsdesk 08:30 Time for Verse 08:50 The Farming World 09:00 Capital 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 World News 09:45 Newsdesk 10:30 John Peel 10:30 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:20 Financial News: Sports Roundup 11:45 Newsdesk 09:00 News 09:45 24 Hours: News Summary 12:30 World News 12:45 Newsdesk 13:00 Newsdesk 13:15 Newsdesk 13:25 A Letter from Home 13:30 Citizens 14:00 Radio Newsred 14:15 Multitrack 2 14:45 Sports Roundup 15:00 World News 15:45 24 Hours: News Summary 16:00 Newsdesk 16:15 Newsdesk 16:30 Newsdesk 16:45 Newsdesk 16:55 Newsdesk 17:00 The Pleasure's Young 18:00 World News 18:00 Commentary 18:15 Assignment: 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News

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06:00 News 06:18 Newsdesk 06:30 VOA Morning 06:45 Newsdesk 06:50 Newsdesk 07:00 VOA Morning 07:15 Newsdesk 08:30 VOA Morning 12:00 News 17:15 Newsdesk 18:30 Music USA 18:45 News 18:45 Features 19:00 Special English News & Features 19:00 News 19:18 Newsdesk 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:15 Features 20:30 News 21:10 Newsdesk 21:30 Music USA 22:00 News & Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 News 23:18 World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

★ Art exhibition by Mahmoud Taha at Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts (runs through 14/3/1981).

★ Book exhibition at the Comprehensive Commercial Centre (Tower Building), Ibadat Amman, 3rd Circle (permanent).

★ Exhibition entitled "La terre entre vos mains" at the French Cultural Center (until March 17).

★ Islamic book exhibition at Yarmouk University in Irbid (until March 14).

★ Exhibition of photos about Woodcuts and typesetting in Germany at Mu'ta University in Karak (until March 15).

★ Book exhibition at Arabian Club, Irbid (runs through March 17).

★ Fifth Caricature Exhibition, works of the late Naji Al Ali at Hussein Camp Youth Activities Centre.

★ Mobile Photographic Exhibition, by Photography and Cine Club, Yarmouk University, at Huwarran Community College (runs through March 10).

★ English Teachers' Evening

★ English Teachers' Evening about classroom management with Mrs. Margaret Mathews at 5:00 p.m. Thursday at the British Council.

FILMS

★ "Come si vive gli principesse" Italian at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Hayas Arts Centre.

★ "The Hustler" at 7:00 p.m. Thursday at the American Centre.

★ "La mort en re Jardin" at 5:00 p.m. Thursday at the Spanish Cultural Centre.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

HOME NEWS

BRITAIN

Environmentalists warn of threat to Azraq Oasis

By Sami Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

EQUESTRIAN: Her Royal Highness Princess Abla will chair the Royal Jordanian Equestrian Society's Higher Committee meeting Thursday to discuss the society's annual financial and administrative affairs. On the agenda is also the subject of building veterinary dispensaries which the society plans to set up.

JERASH FESTIVAL: The management of Jerash Festival for Culture and Arts has invited Jordanian photographers to participate in a photo exhibition which will be held during the seventh festival from July 13 to July 29. An advertisement in the local press urged the photographers to contribute to the exhibition by displaying photos depicting archaeological sites, portraits of important personalities, and general scenery from the Jordanian environment. The advertisement said the best three photographs will be considered as winners and the photographers will receive awards.

13,486 SURGERIES: Al Bashir government hospital in Ashrafieh last year conducted a total of 13,486 surgical operations, provided 12,263 inoculations and took 253,762 X-Ray photographs for patients.

12 THIEVES CAUGHT: The Amman Police Department announced the capture of 12 thieves who had been in the habit of breaking into homes and stealing jewellery, cash, electrical appliances and clothes, especially from the homes of Jordanian expatriates who are now abroad.

A report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily said that one of the thieves was a woman who was among a three-member band active in Sweileh and that the stolen items found with the thieves were worth JD 18,000.

NEW LICENCES: Amman Municipality will not issue new licences or renew old ones for tradesmen who establish their workshops within residential areas of Amman, according to Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh. He said that mechanics, blacksmiths and others whose shops are found causing disturbances in the neighbourhood, or committed recurrent violations, will not have their licences renewed.

CIVIL SERVICE: Cooperation between Jordan and Lebanon in civil service affairs, and the appointment of personnel in government offices, were discussed in Amman over the past week by officials from both countries.

Fawzi Habib, the head of the Civil Service Department in Lebanon led the talks with the Civil Service Commission officials in Amman.

9 COMMITTEES: Amman Municipality has set up nine committees to take charge of the matters related to building and construction in the Greater Amman region. The nine regions to go under the jurisdiction of the committees are Basman, Sports City, Marka, Nasr, Ras Al Ain, Bader, Yarmouk, Zahran and Abdali. The municipality's council also approved three major tenders worth JD 1 million.

IRID FACTORIES: Irid Municipal council has decided to move all brick and tiles factories and stone cutting machines to the area designated for these factories in Foars Street.

ROYAL GIFTS: Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh Wednesday distributed Royal medals and gifts to a number of municipality officials for their efforts before and during the Amman Summit meeting held here last November. In presenting the awards and medals, the mayor said that the Royal gesture is bound to give the officials further impetus in promoting municipal services. He also voiced appreciation of the King's gift and pledged continued relentless work.

CULTURAL SEASON: The Jordan Academy of Arabic (JAA) will open its sixth cultural season on March 19. An announcement said that the season, which will last until April 9, includes lectures on education and culture in Jordan, Egypt and Algeria.

SUPPLIES TO SUDAN: A consignment of 10 tonnes of food and medical supplies was Tuesday dispatched to Sudan as a contribution to the victims of famine and drought in the African country.

ALGERIAN TEAM: The director of the Central Security Department of the Algerian Armed Forces Col. Yatim Mohammad and his accompanying delegation met here Tuesday with Public Security Department (PSD) Director General Abdul Hadi Al Majahid and toured a number of PSD centres in the capital.

CDD CENTRE: Civil Defence Department (CDD) Director General Lieutenant General Haled Al Tarawneh Wednesday opened a new premises for CDD centre in Madaba.

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10-day conference was how to take the advantage of natural resources for development purposes without exhausting them for the future.

He cited the Wadi Dhlail project as an example: "Water was taken from Wadi Dhlail for twenty to thirty years until we lost it forever. This is an example for a non-sustainable project. Like the Azraq, which should be a very important touristic site: We take more from its water than it can give. We're losing its beauty, the salination is increasing, and therefore the plants around the reservoirs are dying and the migrating birds decreasing."

Muasher said the conference suggested that with international support, the IUCN must first approve any project before implementation, to make sure that the environment is not affected.

He continued to say that the conference also discussed the rapid population growth and its effect on the environment.

"Population in the Third World is increasing faster than the economic rate and therefore poverty increases. Pressure of poverty forces the use of natural resources until destruction — such as in Africa where they use them as forms of energy. But when nature loses its resources, it creates more sickness and poverty," Muasher said.

He added that the main aim of population control is to improve the standard of life for individuals. That measure must be taken to control the population growth, apart from exceptional cases where political implications are strong, such as the occupied territories."

Extinction of wildlife

Another issue discussed at the conference, according to Muasher, is the extinction of wildlife and the threatened species of animals and plants "that are very important to the order of life and beneficial to mankind."

"The flies in the Jordan Valley, for example, can be destroyed without polluting the environment with certain types of birds that eat flies; so we cannot allow such birds to become extinct," he explained.

Awad Al Tal, secretary-general of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, and who headed the Jordanian delegation at the international conference, said that there are still no laws concerning the preservation of nature and environment.

He added that he hoped there would be more coordination between all ministries involved with issues concerning the environment, in order to put forth a plan to the government to protect nature and natural resources.

Jerash committee closes service stations, dairy plants

Ahu Karaki.
Ahu Karaki, who heads the Public Health Safety Committee for Jerash, said that committee members toured different shops and public places in this district and found that auto-service stations were in the practice of selling used oil to bakeries.

Thowb And Song to highlight cultural continuity

By Mariam Shahin
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN: The Cultural Committee of the Young Women's Christian Association (YMCA), Saturday presents a folkloric evening in cooperation with Yusra Arnita and Widat Kawar, both prominent figures in the promotion of Arab heritage. This will be the first time that a combination of popular folkloric music and traditional costumes are presented in their social and geographical context.

The evening, which is entitled, "Thowb And Song", is the first of its kind in its combination of themes, each of which is an essential part of the strong fabric of cultural continuity in this part of the world.

Arnita and Kawar have established landmarks in creating and encouraging an awareness of Arab cultural heritage in Jordan, and thus were instrumental in the production of this programme. The show is produced by Nader Omran while Miss Bassma Abu Jaber will present a slide show of the scenic Holy Land.

Arnita has been researching on Arabic music, specifically folk songs, since the late 1950's. She has now documented a collection of rare and authentic folk songs. Many of the songs will be heard by a public audience for the first time Saturday evening.

The American University of

A dress from the village of Bett Dajan, near Jaffa (photo by Mrs. Widat Kawar)

At present Arnita works for the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, where she is researching on introduction of a curriculum of Arabic music for the National Music Conservatory.

Preserving Arab heritage

Agents, ministry blamed for irregularities in drug imports

Pharmacies selling expired medicine

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN: A random survey by the Jordan Times of 23 pharmacies in Amman has identified at least 26 brands of imported medicines that do not carry manufacturing or expiry dates — in violation of established international drug control regulations.

The survey, conducted over the past several weeks, showed that despite a clear ban on the sale of any brand of medicine without both the manufacturing and expiry dates stamped on the product, all 23 surveyed pharmacies were found to possess medicine that does not comply with the specifications.

Only two of those pharmacies kept the unmarked medicine off their shelves with the intention of returning it to the drug agent. The 21 other pharmacies said they sold the unmarked medicine because they were assured by either the drug agent or the ministry or both that the unmarked medicine was good for use through 1988.

The Jordan Times obtained a copy of a Health Ministry circular distributed to pharmacies in which it sanctioned the sale of unmarked medicines through 1988. The circular was signed by the ministry's director of pharmacies and drug control on behalf of the minister.

The list of unmarked drugs included medicine for heart disease, hormones, eye drops and vitamins. According to American and British regulations, which are enforced in Jordan, such medicine was dangerous to human consumption and should be withdrawn from the market and destroyed.

According to pharmacists and Health Ministry officials, the absence of a manufacturing date and expiry date on a particular medicine makes it impossible for the pharmacist or the consumer to know whether the medicine is expired or still valid.

Pharmacists who sold the unmarked medicines told the Jordan Times that very few people hesitated to buy unmarked drugs after they were assured that the ministry sanctioned their sale through 1988.

He added that the main aim of population control is to improve the standard of life for individuals. That measure must be taken to control the population growth, apart from exceptional cases where political implications are strong, such as the occupied territories."

Ministry denies reports

The Health Ministry said that reports of unmarked medicine in the Jordanian market were "unfounded and exaggerated." Drugs in Jordan must, in principle, comply with the British and American pharmacopoeia — drug regulations which impose limits on the active ingredients of drugs as well as the manufacturing and expiry dates.

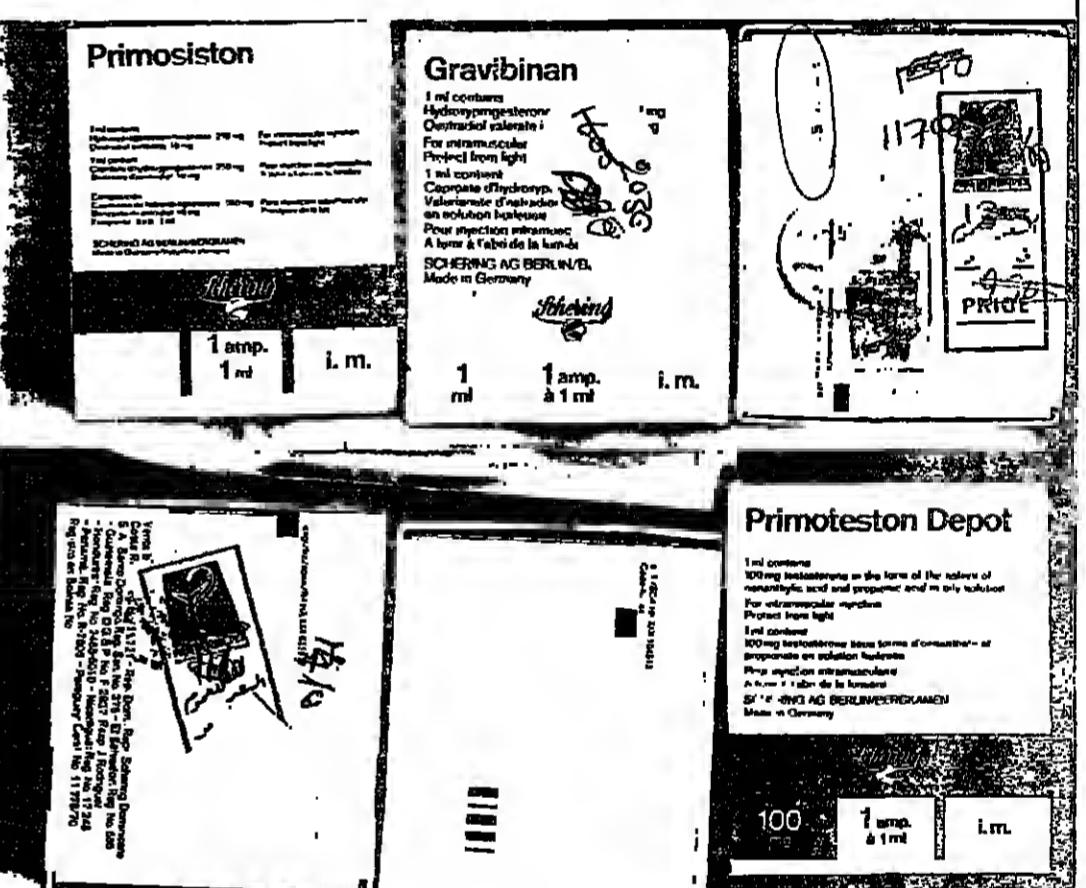
The expiry of a drug results in a degradation in the quality of the medicine, and could produce derivatives that have harmful effect on the consumer, according to an expert in the field who asked not to be further identified. "After a certain period of time, the drug goes through a process of decomposition and disintegration of the ingredients," according to the expert.

"We should be very careful here," the drug expert told the Jordan Times. "The question is, when do we start counting these five years? We don't know how long these medicines stayed in storage in the country of origin, how they were shipped, and how

long they have been stored here in Jordan."



Samples of medicines without manufacturing or expiry dates, and some without a batch number. One of the medicines in the photographs (primostenon depot) carries the manufacturing date of May, 1975, clearly expired but in circulation. Notice the several hand-written changes of the price on the label, indicating how old the medicine has been on shelves. According to documents made available to the Jordan Times, some of the unmarked medicines were only recently registered by the Ministry of Health. (The medicines in the pictures are shown photographed from both sides to show the absence of manufacturing and expiry dates required by international regulation.)



by shortening the medicine's life span. "What remains good for five years in England does not necessarily remain good through five years in Jordan," the expert said. "All this notwithstanding, medicine without manufacturing and expiry dates should be banned to begin with."

Some of the medicine checked by the Jordan Times did not have a batch number, which would be another way to detect the manufacturing date of the drug.

Furthermore, the expert added, storage conditions in Britain are much more favourable than in Jordan. "The weather in England is much cooler and storage conditions are generally better. Our weather conditions are different."

The expert explained that sunlight, high temperatures and humidity have a negative effect on medicine ingredients, mainly

on shortening the medicine's life span. "What remains good for five years in England does not necessarily remain good through five years in Jordan," the expert said. "All this notwithstanding, medicine without manufacturing and expiry dates should be banned to begin with."

The delegation grouping the Technical Committee and changing the law so that members of the committee do not have a direct personal interest in medicines imported into the country. "This will guarantee honest and impartial decisions" by the nine-member committee.

The sources said there are at least three drug agents on the ministry's Technical Committee and that a fourth member of the committee is married to a drug agent.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh, and the ministry's Director General of the Department of Pharmacies and Drug Control Director General Hussain Eddin Musmar, could not be reached for comment.

Expatriates conference to open on July 11

AMMAN (Petra) — The fourth Jordanian Expatriates Conference will open in Amman on July 11, according to an official announcement Tuesday.

The director of the Ministry of Labour's Expatriates Department Azmi Al Muhtaseb said that a committee has been formed to prepare for the coming conference which will discuss social, economic housing and other issues of concern to the expatriates.

The major theme of Saturday's production will be to show the association of the different songs and dresses to their places of origin, and their different social occasions, whether marriages or funerals, or in cities, towns or villages.

The show will begin with a wedding scene from Ramallah in the occupied territories and end with a scene of city life, where the models will display "city costumes" from all the cities in Jordan and Palestine. Over forty songs and thirty costumes will be presented to make what should be a most entertaining folkloric evening.

150-room hotel at Ma'in Spa opens

AMMAN (Petra + J.T.) — A 150-room hotel built at the Zarqa Ma'in Spa complex south of here is now open for the public and tourist groups from Jordan and foreign countries, according to an announcement by the spa management.

The Istar Hotel has adjoining, integrated therapeutic facilities within a complex that includes

chalets, swimming pools, tennis courts, playing grounds for children and other facilities, the announcement said.

In addition, the spa, which cost JD 14 million, has a shopping centre, three restaurants and a camping site that can accommodate 250 people.

There are 60 natural springs containing minerals beneficial for

patients suffering from rheumatism, sinusitis, arthritis and asthma.

The spa can be reached through a newly built highway from Madaba 30 kilometres south of Amman according to the announcement.

With the opening of the 150-bed hotel, the final stage of the complex has been completed.

Arab Emirates, to orient Jordanian expatriates there on prospects of owning homes in the Kingdom.

The delegation, grouping the Housing Bank, the Housing Corporation, the Ministry of Tourism, the Urban Development Department and representatives of 35 local investment, real estate and housing companies, held exhibitions in Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

Sweden supports international peace conference

A Palestinian state too

On Tuesday, February 9, a debate was held in the Swedish Parliament in Stockholm about the Middle East problems. Questions were asked by five MPs. They were answered by Sten Andersson, Minister for Foreign Affairs. Following is Andersson's statement:

SINCE those weeks before Christmas more than forty people — all of them Palestinians — have been killed in the occupied territories and a far greater number wounded, in some cases seriously. The Israeli army's harsh practices with violence, torture and bullets against defenceless people cannot be justified. The methods used in the Israeli occupation policy call to mind other places in the world where the civilian population suffers oppression with terror-like methods.

However, the Israeli violence towards the Palestinian civilian population is not, in spite of everything, the reason for the problems but only a symptom. Underlying it all is not least the fact that Israel for more than 20 years has been occupying foreign territory, whose population opposes this occupation by every available means.

A fundamental principle of Swedish foreign policy, in the Middle East as well as in other parts of the world, is the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force. This principle is laid down in the United Nations charter, which all member states — including Israel — have signed. Respect for this principle is of fundamental importance not least for all small nations. It is therefore in Sweden's interests to object vigorously to any breach of this principle.

Israel's continuing occupation of the West Bank and Gaza can never be justified. A military occupation can only be regarded as a temporary situation and cannot give the occupying power the right to annex territory or to extend its own legislation and administration to the occupied territories. Such measures are contrary to international law. There are no special rules for Israel.

nians are denied this right by Israel through, among other things, the occupation of Gaza and the West Bank. A solution to the conflict that does not take into account the wishes and legitimate rights of the population will in all probability be neither peaceful nor durable.

A third principle in Swedish foreign policy, and a principle that is likewise fundamental for the whole of the United Nations system, is the principle of peaceful settlement of disputes. This principle presupposes that the different parties to a conflict are prepared to talk with one another. Refusal to negotiate is not compatible with this principle.

Sweden — in common with an overwhelming majority of the countries of the world, including, for instance, the Nordic and the twelve EC countries — has condemned Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights. Furthermore neither we nor those states have accepted unilateral initiatives to alter Jerusalem's status.

The situation in the occupied areas is now characterised by practically chronic unrest which finds expression in demonstrations and spontaneous resistance actions on the part of the population by force. This principle is laid down in the United Nations charter, which all member states — including Israel — have signed. Respect for this principle is of fundamental importance not least for all small nations. It is therefore in Sweden's interests to object vigorously to any breach of this principle.

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man rights prompts us to protest openly and unequivocally against violations wherever they may occur. Recent developments are clear evidence of the lack of Israeli respect for the human rights of the Palestinians.

It is also important to try to contribute to a reasonable social and economic development in the occupied territories. The government is prepared to explore different ways of how Sweden can best promote this, also by means of an increase in aid. In addition, we should be pleased to see an increase in exports from the occupied areas. As regards the question of how goods manufactured in Israeli settlements in the occupied territories are to be treated,

the government has no possibilities of preventing the importation of such goods unless the United Nations Security Council decides on or recommends sanctions.

It is on the basis of Israel's refusal to respect principles of international law that are fundamental and immensely important in our eyes — and Israel's refusal to accept the applicability of international law in relation to the occupied territories — that Sweden has criticised Israel. This criticism of ours has become stronger than previously, for the simple reason that the Israeli government does not appear to have been influenced by our appeals and those of others or by what we and other countries have so far put forward. On the contrary, Israel has demonstrated the opposite, for example recently by means of its new decisions on expelling Palestinians from the occupied areas.

Israeli policy was rightly criticised recently by a unanimous United Nations Security Council.

It was the first occasion for a long time that the five permanent members were in agreement on an issue concerning the Middle East. The Security Council once again confirmed the applicability of the Geneva convention to the Israeli occupation and called on Israel to refrain from the deportations.

The fact that they were nonetheless carried out must be condemned.

Sweden was one of the countries that actively participated in the United Nations decision to set up the state of Israel. On the basis of this Sweden has also defended Israel's participation in the United Nations. Sweden has constantly upheld Israel's right to live in peace within recognised and secure borders.

Israel's development has been far from problem-free. The continued occupation has led to domestic differences of opinion and conflicts and gives rise to fears about the development of Israeli democracy. It is now more

important than ever before to support the democratic and moderate forces in Israel, especially those that strive for a peaceful solution as the foundation for the future of Israel. Allow me to mention in particular the leader of the Labour Party, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who is actively working for an international peace conference.

The United Nations decision to set up the state of Israel also constituted a decision to set up a Palestinian state. We must give our support also to this part of the decision. A lasting solution can only be achieved if the Palestinians are given the opportunity of exercising their right to self-determination, including the right to establish a state of their own, which lives in peace with Israel. Through this alone can also Israel's future in the Middle East be safeguarded in the long term.

In this context I should like to emphasise how much the government appreciates the work carried out by Folke Bernadotte in connection with the Second World War and later as the United Nations mediator in the Middle East. His efforts certainly deserve to be called to mind. He is one of many Swedes who have done a lot for peace in the Middle East.

In addition to the United Nations General Assembly's 1947 partition resolution, Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 contain important elements for a comprehensive solution. As we understand them, Israel will after negotiations withdraw from the territories occupied in 1967 and Israel's neighbours will recognise the right of the state of Israel to live in peace within secure and recognised borders.

It is a serious matter that the state of affairs prevailing in the occupied territories is allowed to continue. It is a human tragedy that concerns us. It is a Swedish interest to protest against these violations of principles of international law.

Raiha Habib's Corner

Pity the smiling faces

NASSER is 13 years old. He has curly black hair, a petite figure and an even-smiling face. Nasser does not go to school, nor does he have leisure time to spend with his pals. Instead, he is one of tens of juvenile peddlers who pop onto cars at traffic-light zones offering assortments of goods. Some sell chewing gums, others trade lottery tickets and even garbage bags.

I came to know Nasser at a red traffic light. He told me that he is the son of his father and that he was the sole breadwinner for his mother and three younger sisters.

The efforts of Ministry of Labour and Social Development to provide shelter and financial support for the unprivileged are appreciated. It is however essential to extend such care to children who are found out in the streets earning their living at an early age. The ministry and social charitable societies are equally asked to step up efforts to give shelter to these children and to provide them with means to earn their living and seek education at the same time. It is highly unfair to leave these youngsters out of the social development process.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

King returns after talks

(Continued from page 1)

Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sbarif Zaid Ibn Shaker and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri.

Upon his departure from Baghdad, for Kuwait Wednesday, King Hussein sent a cable to President Hussein expressing Jordan's confidence in the strength of Iraq to repel Iran's aggression. Petra said.

The King also paid tribute to the Iraqi leader for his endeavours towards developing his country despite the war and voiced appreciation of the Iraqi armed forces for their role at the battle front and achievements in military industries.

The King also sent a cable to Sheikh Jaber expressing thanks and gratitude for the hospitality and warm feelings extended to him and his accompanying delegation during their visit to Kuwait. The King added, "was a good opportunity for us to exchange views and about issues of the Arab and Islamic nations and about ways for supporting Arab solidarity."

2 more Palestinians join martyrs

(Continued from page 1)

day that the army developed the new device, mounted on an armoured personnel carrier, in its efforts to find new and efficient ways to disperse demonstrators.

Mass resignation

About 40 Palestinians employed by the Israeli occupation authorities in Gaza resigned from their jobs Wednesday in protest against Israeli rule, Palestinian sources said.

A number of Palestinians working for the Israeli occupation authorities had heeded calls by underground leaders of the uprising to quit their jobs, they said.

An Arab policeman was stabbed to death at his home in the Aqabat Jaber refugee camp Tuesday and Palestinians said he was killed as a warning to other residents to end all cooperation with Israeli authorities.

Shamir wants U.S. to drop plan

(Continued from page 1)

"You know Shamir is no great innovator so his plan will be largely based on the Camp David agreements," he said.

The U.S. plan, based on the exchange of land for peace, curtails the period of limited Palestinian "self-rule" outlined in Camp David and calls for negotiations at the end of this year on a final settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The official declined to detail Shamir's proposal but made clear it excluded a U.N.-sponsored conference.

Shamir says he agrees to Palestinian "self-rule" in occupied areas but that Israel must retain overall "sovereignty."

Shamir also disagrees with the opening in December of talks on a final settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. He prefers the Camp David formula which allows for up to three years at least before such talks start.

Opponents of Shamir accuse him of using delaying tactics to avoid having to give a negative comment further.

'War of cities' continue unabated

(Continued from page 1)

among the dead were four children buried under the rubble of their home.

Iraq also said its air force pounded military and economic installations in several towns or cities in western Iran, setting their targets ablaze.

In Moscow, Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady I. Gerasimov was asked about Iranian charges that the Soviet Union supplied long-range missiles to Iraq.

Gerasimov acknowledged that Soviet missiles had been shipped to Iraq under an agreement between the two countries.

"The Soviet Union previously delivered a limited shipment of short-range missiles," Gerasimov said.

"We never gave our permission to modify those missiles to increase their range, and modernisation was not foreseen by that agreement."

Iran has accused Iraq of using Soviet-made missiles. Western military analysts believe the missiles are Soviet-built SS-1 SCUD-B weapons provided by other countries, possibly North Korea.

Both sides have SCUD-Bs, which have a range of 300 kilometres. Baghdad, only 130 kilometres from the border, is within easy range of the Iranian batteries.

But to hit Teheran, 465 kilometres from the frontier, the Iraqis need longer-range weapons.

Morocco kicks off 16th Africa Nations Cup finals

RABAT (R) — Morocco kicks off the 16th Africa Nations Cup finals against the Leopards of Zaire Sunday aiming to use the showpiece of Africa's premier soccer competition to boost its claim to host the 1994 World Cup.

No country in football-mad Africa has yet had the honour of staging the game's top event and for the next fortnight the eyes of a critical soccer public will be focused on stadiums in Casablanca and Rabat.

Morocco, backed by the entire continent, is vying with the United States and Brazil for the 1994 contest.

The president of the world governing body, FIFA, Joao Havelange will be in Morocco to witness events at first hand.

"I am the friend of Africa," he declared in an interview with the leading Moroccan daily L'Opinion Wednesday. "I am watching this continent."

Africa could not have asked for a better stage on which to present its claim.

Sports writers and commentators are agreed the tournament promises to be one of the most exciting and closely-fought in the cup's 31-year history with a dazzling array of individual talent on display.

Of the eight teams taking part at least five — Cameroon, Egypt, Morocco, Algeria, and Ivory Coast — have serious claims to the trophy.

To other three — Zaire, Nigeria, and Kenya — all have great players who are capable of upsetting the form book.

The contest is also likely to decide the fate of more than one man.

Morocco's Brazilian coach Jose Medhi Faria — a hero after the 1986 Mexico World Cup when his team became the first African side to make the second round — has been under pressure since losing a place in the Seoul Olym-

pics to Tunisia.

"We will have this cup," he confidently declared earlier this week. If not, the rumour in Morocco is that King Hassan — a keen football fan — will ask him to pack his bags.

Morocco are drawn in Group A in what on paper appears the tougher of the two groups. The matches will be in Casablanca.

The Moroccan authorities have gone to great lengths to ensure the smooth organisation of the event but are painfully aware that once the first whistle is blown what happens on the field is more likely to decide the fate of their application.

The slightest problem and the World Cup will go to the United States," said Michel de Bono, sports writer on the Moroccan Al Maghrib daily.

The biggest questionmark appears to hang over the 17 referees. All have been picked from non-qualifying countries and in some of these the game is less developed.

Anticipating problems FIFA and the African Football Confederation have been running joint training courses over the last few days to make sure they are up to scratch on all the laws of the game.

"Morocco must do well, but more importantly the tournament must take place in a spirit of fair play and good organisation. The African game must show it has come of age," De Bono said.

Many commentators, who say Brazil will not be awarded the World Cup because Havelange himself is Brazilian, argue Africa has a stronger claim than United States where soccer is not the national game.

New Zealand agrees to participate in America's Cup

SYDNEY (R) — New Zealand's America's Cup Yachting Challenge Syndicate said Wednesday it agreed to participate in a multi-nation elimination series starting in San Diego Feb. 1, 1989.

"Syndicate chairman Michael Fay said in a statement released here the America's Cup match would then start on May 1, 1989, also in San Diego, California.

All yachts competing, including the defending yacht from the San Diego Yacht Club, would be single-masted, monohulls, not more than 90 foot (27 metres) on the load waterline," Fay said.

Fay's move to break the legal logjam surrounding the world's most important yachting trophy follows the San Diego Yacht Club's last-minute decision in late February to accept other challengers to race off California this September.

San Diego issued the invitation in the New York supreme court, where it was facing charges from British millionaire yachtman Peter de Savary that it had violated the cup's deed of gift by stopping countries other than New Zealand from challenging for the cup.

Fay initially called the offer too little, too late as no other syndicate would have had time to build a contender.

The millionaire merchant banker also criticised San Diego's decision to race in a multihull, thought

to be faster than a monohull, off San Pedro Bay, California, where the winds are likely to favour multihulls.

But Wednesday Fay said he had agreed to the San Diego offer in an attempt to preserve the spirit of the America's Cup.

"New Zealand wants to settle the America's Cup on the water," Fay said. "As true sportsmen, the Kiwis have always wanted this match to be multi-national, and have now presented to San Diego the means of accomplishing this objective."

"We hope that the San Diego Yacht Club will now deal with this matter in the true tradition and spirit of the America's Cup and embrace this opportunity," Fay said.

The San Diego Yacht Club only agreed to allow other countries to participate when they knew it was impossible for anyone else to be "there," Fay said.

"It's time for the interests of yachtsmen around the world to prevail over the private and selfish interests of Sail America."

"Accordingly, in a letter sent to Justice Ciparick (of the supreme court) today we have stated that we agree to participate in a multi-national challenge elimination series starting in San Diego on Feb. 1, 1989, with the America's Cup match commencing on May 1, 1989, in San Diego."



MAGNIFICENT STADIUM — A view of the King Fahd International Stadium in Riyadh which was opened last week

TENNIS



Steffi Graf



Chris Evert



Mats Wilander

Graf, Evert advance at Florida tournament

BOCA RATON, Florida (R) — Top seed Steffi Graf breezed through her second round match against American Lisa Bonder in 46 minutes, while second seed Chris Evert ended the debut of 14-year-old Monica Seles of Yugoslavia at the \$300,000 Florida Tennis Tournament Tuesday.

Third-seeded American Pam Shriver also needed just 46 minutes as she gave up just one game in each set to West German Wiltrud Probst and fifth seed Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia sailed past Argentine Patricia Tarabin 6-2, 6-1.

Sixth seed Claudia Kohde-Kilsch of West Germany double faulted on match point to lose a second round serve and volley duel to Gigi Fernandez of Puerto Rico 7-5, 6-4.

Evert had no trouble ousting Seles 6-2, 6-1. The young Yugoslav was impressive in her professional debut Monday as she eliminated 31-ranked Canadian Helen Kelesi.

The third-ranked Evert, playing her first match in five weeks, repeatedly outrallied the 14-year-old, who hits with two hands on

backhand and forehand ground-strokes.

Seles did not hold her serve once but impressed Evert with her tenacious play.

"I was very impressed. She moves well from side to side and she times the ball well," Evert said.

Graf, the defending champion and world number one, crushed Bonder 6-1, 6-1 in her opening match after receiving a first round bye.

Graf, who was not in top form despite winning in San Antonio last week, seemed much happier with her play here.

"I'm back to my good tennis after playing bad last week," said Graf, who used her powerful forehand groundstroke to keep the 56th-ranked Bonder out of position the entire match.

The 18-year-old West German allowed Bonder to hold serve once in each set and never lost her own serve.

Wilander beats Tulasne

In Orlando, Mats Wilander, playing his first Grand Prix

tournament since winning the Australian Open six weeks ago, said he is feeling refreshed after beat French qualifier Thierry Tulasne 6-2, 6-2 in a first round match of the \$415,000 Orlando Classic Tuesday.

Second-seeded Czechoslovak Miloslav Meir also advanced to the second round with a comfortable 6-3, 6-2 win over Uruguay's Diego Perez.

There were two seeded casualties Tuesday.

Jimmy Connors, the tournament's third seed and a finalist last year, was upset by fellow American David Pate, who came back from a set and a service break down to win 3-6, 6-4, 6-3. Pate called it "one of my biggest career results."

American Dan Cassidy eliminated seventh seed Joakim Nystrom 6-0, 7-6. The Swede, playing his first tournament in three months because of various injuries said he was nervous due to a lack of match play.

Wilander, number two in the world, moved the ball around the court and caught Tulasne flat-footed on several occasions. The Swede rarely came to the net, but when he did, it was on a solid approach shot that set up an easy volley winner.

"It was good to have a break after Australia," said Wilander. "I am now really excited about playing again."

Fourth seeded Boris Becker rallied back from set point down in the first set to beat Spain's Emilio Sanchez 7-6, 6-4.

On Sunday, Becker defeated Sanchez in the final of the Championships at Indian Wells, California.

"I was tired and exhausted in the first set," said Becker. "After that it was a matter of getting it together. We were both slow today," said the former Wimbledon champion.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Maurice Evans resigns as Oxford boss

LONDON (R) — Maurice Evans resigned Tuesday as team manager of struggling English First Division soccer club Oxford United. Evans, who guided Oxford to their greatest success when they won the English League Cup in 1986, agreed to remain in charge as "caretaker" until his successor is appointed. He will then become the club's general manager and take charge of scouting and youth development. His resignation followed a dismal run. Oxford have failed to win a First Division match since Nov. 7 and are in danger of relegation. Evans, who became Oxford manager reluctantly three years ago, said: "I have been thinking about it for some time. I saw the chairman Kevin Maxwell last night and told him I wanted to stand down. "He agreed, but has asked me to continue as caretaker manager... He does not want me to leave Oxford and has offered me the post of general manager next season. I have accepted it."

W. German captain to miss W. Berlin match

MUNICH (R) — West German soccer captain Klaus Allofs said Tuesday he was likely to miss at least one match for his country during the West Berlin four-nation tournament because of club commitments. Allofs said he would probably play in West Germany's opening match against Sweden on March 31 when he would miss a cup tie for his French club Marseilles. But he said he would probably return to France for a League match for Marseilles, who are fourth in the French First Division, eight points behind leaders Monaco. "I hope a compromise will be found to the satisfaction of both parties," said the experienced forward who may be missing if West Germany succeed in reaching the tournament final. The tournament is being contested by West Germany, Sweden, the Soviet Union and Argentina and is an important part of West Germany's build-up in the European Championship finals which they are hosting in June.

Mansell leads Formula One tyre tests

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Britain's Nigel Mansell, runner-up to Nelson Piquet in the World Drivers' Championship last year, led the way on the second day of Formula One tyre tests at the Jacarepagua circuit Tuesday. Mansell clocked one minute 31.61 in his Williams while his former team-mate, Brazil's Piquet who now drives for Lotus, had the second best lap time of 1:31.90. Italian Michele Alboreto still had the fastest overall time, the 1:30.60 he set in his Ferrari on Monday's first day of testing. Drivers and technicians said they did not think a series of regulation changes, aimed at slowing down cars and reducing the risk of injury, would affect the quality of the racing in the forthcoming season. "I don't think the changes make it any less competitive," said a technician for the Ferrari team of Alboreto and Austria's Gerhard Berger who declined to give his name. The 1988 World Championship opens with the Brazilian Grand Prix here April 3.

The Daily Commuter Puzzle



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Economy

Corporation to upgrade public transport fleet

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Transport Corporation (PTC) plans to add 150 buses to its fleet and to modernise its workshops at Marks in Amman within the corporation's current five-year plan.

The expansion programmes were explained to Transport and Telecommunications Minister Khalid Al-Haj Hassan by PTC Director-General Ibrahim Mahfouz during the minister's visit to the corporation, Wednesday.

The director-general said the additional buses are likely to cost JD 3.5 million and the workshops JD 1.2 million.

The PTC, he said, plans to computerise its operations to develop its administrative and financial systems.

The PTC now operates buses on 74 routes, with 80 buses serving

University of Jordan students, commuting them in morning hours from and to Amman the director said.

Mahfouz said the PTC occasionally leases its buses to schools and other organisations in Jordan to help them transport children and personnel from and to schools and other places for work.

PTC actively contributes towards stimulating domestic tourism as it covers nearly 85 per cent of the total buses leased by schools for trips during holidays and weekends. Moreover, PTC provides buses for pilgrims going to the holy places in Saudi Arabia, the PTC director noted.

Haj Hassan and the PTC board later reviewed the corporation's programmes.

Technical committee to study Amman's need of poultry meat

AMMAN (J.T.) — Greater Amman Municipality and the Ministry of Agriculture have set up a technical committee to conduct a study on the capital's requirements of poultry meat and the municipality's daily capacity of providing the commodity for the market.

The announcement was made following a meeting between Mayor Abdur Ra'uf Al Rawabdeh and Minister Marwan Hmoud.

Rawabdeh said that the Greater Amman Municipality slaughterhouse can provide the market with its needs if it functions for eight hours daily, producing 4,000 birds.

He also said that Amman now has 170 shops which provide the market with 20 per cent of its poultry meat, but these are all to be taken over by a newly created company.

The company last month won a 25-year concession from the government to set up and operate poultry slaughterhouses in the Kingdom. The company will also set up centres for grading and selling table eggs within the company's concession zone.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — Investors Wednesday traded a total of 872,067 shares in the morning and evening sessions, at the value of JD 513,899 spread over 645 contracts.

The Jordan Lime and Brick Silicate Industries dominated the market floor for the second consecutive day with 582,050 shares traded for a value of JD 152,000 in 181 deals.

Shares of 50 companies exchanged hands with the bulk of trading concentrated on the Intermediate Petro-Chemical Industries (37,450 shares traded for JD 57,890), Aladdin Industries (25,450 shares for JD 35,857), and Universal Chemical Industries (13,250 shares for JD 24,168).

Share prices of most companies remained stable with a slight change to the Arab Bank's shares from a low of JD 113.500 to a high of JD 114.000. The National Financial Investment shares dropped from a high of JD 1,850 to JD 1,770.

Trading in the parallel market was low, with 330 shares traded for JD 3,564.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You may have to look at your surroundings from a new point of view if you are to make any progress. Focus your energy on making all your communications with others as clear as possible.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If your property needs some repairs, try to make yourself and save some money. Trust your instincts about a money-making deal.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 to Oct. 21) Your intuition is working unusually well at this time, so don't be afraid to play a hunch. A short trip can bring you some fine results.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Take a little break from any boring routines which can wait a little while. Something fine can come of a conversation with good friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 18) Make appointments with those people who can give you valuable advice or help your progress in some other way.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20) Get an early start today, and handle any civic or career matters which are vital to your well-being. Advancement is possible at this time.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Disclose whatever is on your mind frankly with your mate, since the two of you working together can overcome any problems easily.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can make any changes, renewals of contracts or new contacts easily at this time, so be alert to any profitable opportunities.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Your energy level is high, so stop procrastinating and get much accomplished. You can turn a former enemy into a good friend.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) This is a highly romantic time for you, so don't be afraid to show more affection and give more attention to one love.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't be overly critical at home, or an unfortunate argument could occur. Come out of your shell and enjoy the social side of life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) This is a good day to have discussions with business associates, relatives, or just good friends. Handle any in-

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1988

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a good day to communicate with those at a distance to you and revive friendships which, due to distance or absence, have become dormant. Don't seek favors from any acquaintances today.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Try to be more understanding of opinions which differ from your own. You can greatly improve your position in life with a little research.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Show your mate that you are thoughtful and understanding. A kind word is more valuable than gold at this time.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You are more fully to the views of a partner so you can have a meeting of minds. Be sure you know the potential of a new venture.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) If you are more cooperative with co-workers, everyone will get better results. Try to get your wardrobe in better shape.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Plan some entertainment with good friends, but count the cost well and stay within your budget. Be careful in any kind of communication.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Plan some long-needed improvements to your home, and get estimates before making any major health.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Try to get your ideas across to others, but do so in a friendly, non-pushy manner. Use your natural

New code imposes strict cheque violator penalties

AMMAN (J.T.) — A new penal code related to cheque transactions will come into force on March 17 after it is published in the official gazette. The law, which was approved by Parliament, imposes strict penalties on violators, including fines up to JD 200, together with prison terms as long as three years. According to the articles of the law, violators are those who issue cheques without sufficient deposits to cover for them; those who give cheques but ask beneficiaries not to cash them; those who endorse cheques while knowing that no bank deposit is available; and those who issue cheques in a manner that can block cashing.

JAMPSCO purchases potato produce at subsidised prices

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (JAMPSCO) has started purchasing locally produced potatoes at a subsidised price of JD 200 a tonne for the first grade type, JD 130 a tonne for second grade and JD 90 a tonne for third grade crops, JAMPSCO Director Ghazi Abu Hassan announced Wednesday.

Abu Hassan said that JAMPSCO was marketing the potatoes in Jordan and abroad along with other Jordanian crops and fruits.

Last year, JAMPSCO sold 5,000 tonnes of potatoes to Saudi Arabia, Lebanon and Syria and the newly subsidised quantities will be sold to other Arab countries in the Gulf, Abu Hassan said.

JAMPSCO started as of Feb. 17 to buy locally produced tomatoes at the rate of JD 40 a tonne, and so far the company has received 1,093 tonnes at its processing plant at Arida, Abu Hassan noted.

He said that JAMPSCO was doing all it can to prevent any bottlenecks in marketing local products here and abroad.

Tunis Air to resume Amman flights

AMMAN (Petra) — Tunis Air is to resume its flights between Tunis and Amman as of June 1988 following a break over the past few years. Agreement on the resumption came during talks Wednesday between Tunisian and Jordanian officials.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

AMMAN (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.8425/35	U.S. dollar	Canadian dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2537/47	Deutschmarks	Dutch guilders
	1.6685/92	Swiss francs	Belgian francs
	1.8735/45	French francs	Italian lire
	1.3785/95	Japanese yen	Swedish kronas
	34.89/92	Norwegian kronas	Danish kronas
	5.6500/30	U.S. dollars	
One ounce of gold	436.30/436.80		

LONDON STOCK MARKET

AMMAN (R) — Share prices remained below the morning highs as concern about sterling's continuing strength and a mixed Wall Street opening overshadowed this morning's spate of encouraging company results, dealers said.

By 1551 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was up 2.8 points to 1,817.8 compared to the high of 1,826.0 reached at 0958 GMT. Dealers said overnight gains on Wall Street and in Tokyo helped the early gains but having here quickly ran out of steam.

The pound continued to rise, hitting some leading exporters and aggravating recent nerves over its impact on U.K. trade competitiveness.

Dealers said they expected trading would remain nervous but sluggish ahead of next Tuesday's budget. Prime Minister Thatcher's comments Tuesday, stressing keeping inflation down rather than curbing the pound's advance, have made some investors wary of a further push forward by the currency.

ICI was down 7p to 1,048, partly because sterling edged up to near 3.08 marks on the foreign exchanges and partly because of a cool response to its joint venture plans with Du Pont.

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Egypt faces debt rescheduling problems

CAIRO (R) — Debt rescheduling talks between Egypt and a series of key Western creditors have run into deadlock, raising fears President Hosni Mubarak's government is heading for another foreign exchange crisis.

Western diplomats said and bankers calculate debt repayments this year will fall to \$2.4 billion in 1987.

But Egypt's huge debt, second among Arab states to Iraq, has become embroiled in world politics as Mubarak — well aware harsh economic measures have led to rioting in the past — pleads that Cairo deserves lenient treatment from its Western allies.

Diplomats said that is bolding up an extra \$500 million of World Bank credits to Egypt and blocking the flow of new Western government loans and trade guarantees.

A long-promised scheme to clear up an estimated \$240 million of arrears on supplier credits made by banks to state-owned companies has also been held up,

but bankers complain the government has yet to tackle the problem of up to \$4 billion in arrears owned by the private sector.

The rescheduling strategy is crucial to preserve Egypt's scarce hard currency for essential commodities. Assuming all Paris Club negotiations can be concluded,

major countries — including the United States and France — so far agreeing detailed terms for less than half the \$12 billion of loans at stake.

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Sabena 'prefers several spouses'

Van Rafelghem said.

Sabena's talks about joining forces with Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS) reached a stalemate last June.

Van Rafelghem said that while no talks are now in progress, he had received clear indications through intermediaries that SAS had now changed its attitude.

"The bus is still in their camp," he added.

On another front, Van Rafelghem said Sabena was close to agreeing with one of the six big, best U.S. airlines to operate services jointly on some routes.

Sabena sources said the carrier involved was American Airlines, Delta Airlines, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Lufthansa of West Germany and Swissair, and was currently talking with Luxair of Luxembourg.

"We would prefer to have several spouses... we hope the company that will be set up will make it the biggest in Europe,"

The state owns 54 per cent of Sabena.

European luxury goods firms declare war on counterfeiters

PARIS (R) — European manufacturers of luxury goods from Gucci to Porsche rallied in Paris Tuesday to stop their wares being pirated by counterfeiters.

Some 14,000 manufacturers from the fashion, jewellery, perfume and luxury car industries gathered at an exclusive Champs Elysees reception to launch a new lobbying association which will put pressure on nations where counterfeiting is rife.

"Counterfeit amounts to trade handily. We are now launching an all-out, worldwide offensive..." Henry Racamier, head of the prestigious French leather goods producer Louis Vuitton told a news conference.

The companies, which included perfume manufacturer Guerlain, Italian shoe and bag manufacturer Gucci, West German carmaker Prosesche and Franco-Swiss watch producer Cartier, said worldwide copying of their products cost them \$70 billion a year.

The association, called the Committee Against Counterfeiting (COLC), estimates that countries

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



S. Africa sanctions vetoed

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Britain and the United States have vetoed a Security Council resolution calling for mandatory trade sanctions against South Africa, an action denounced by African delegates as hypocritical.

The resolution up for passage Tuesday called for sanctions similar to those already imposed by the United States and the European Economic Community, to which Britain belongs.

France, West Germany and Japan abstained from the 10-2 vote. Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, China, Italy, Nepal, Senegal, the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia and Zambia voted in favour.

The British and American envoys said they were using their veto because the measure was mandatory.

But ambassadors from Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia pointed out that Britain and the

United States have called for a mandatory arms embargo against Iran to punish it for ignoring a Security Council resolution calling for a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

"These are contradictions we find it difficult to reconcile," Zambian Ambassador Peter Dingi Zuze told a news conference after the vote.

The measure included a one-year ban on export and sale of oil to South Africa, on iron and steel imports, on the sale of all South African coins, including krugerrands, and on investment and loans.

It also called for an end to all promotion and support for trade with South Africa.

"This resolution has judged two members of the Security Council and found them wanting," said Ambassador Isaac S.G. Mudenge of Zimbabwe.

British Ambassador Sir Crispin Tickell and American ambassador Herbert Okun both told the council mandatory sanctions would cripple the chances for an "internal" dialogue in South Africa.

The West German envoy, Alexander Count York von Wartenburg, gave a similar reason for abstaining. But he also warned South Africa that the West German abstention is "a signal that my government's patience is not inexhaustible."

The French and Japanese envoys did not comment on their abstentions.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Ortega blames contras for talks failure

MANAGUA (AP) — Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega charged contra rebels with killing the possibility for cease-fire talks set for Wednesday and called for the meeting to be rescheduled. He also blamed U.S. President Ronald Reagan for the continued bloodshed in Nicaragua's civil war. The contras Tuesday backed out of three days of talks to be held in Nicaraguan territory at a border post with Costa Rica, saying that preliminary meetings should first be held to work out details. Ortega responded by calling for the cease-fire talks to be reset for the third week of this month with an open agenda. "This shows again the lack of political will of the United States government and the counter-revolutionary leaders, as their instrument, to end the war of aggression and terrorist acts against the Nicaraguan people and accept a peaceful solution to the conflict," Ortega said, reading from a prepared statement.

Aquino skips Middle East in planned trip

MANILA (R) — Philippine President Corazon Aquino said Wednesday she was not planning to visit the Middle East. "Not this year," she told reporters in reaction to official suggestions that she visit Saudi Arabia this summer to seek Islamic support for her government, which faces threats of a renewed Muslim separatist war on Mindanao in the south. Aquino will visit China and Hong Kong next month and address an International Labour Organisation meeting in Geneva in June.

U.N. body condemns hostage-taking

GENEVA (R) — The United Nations Human Rights Commission Tuesday said hostage-taking was hateful but increasingly used as a means of political pressure. In a resolution sponsored by 11 countries, including the United States, the Soviet Union and France, and adopted unanimously without a vote, the 43-member commission said it was alarmed that the practice was growing throughout the world. Hostages were increasingly seized to exert pressure on states or third parties, the resolution said. It denounced all captors of hostages whatever their motives, and demanded that they free their prisoners immediately. It also called on states to take measures to prevent hostage-taking on their territory. The commission, in the final sixth week of its annual session, also unanimously expressed concern at continuing abductions and torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment imposed on people throughout the world.

Taiwan MPs to push for truce with China

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — A lawmaker said Wednesday that several Nationalist members of the legislative Yuan, Taiwan's highest lawmaking body, plan to push for a formal truce between Taiwan and China to end four decades of hostility. The Nationalist lawmaker, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told reporters that peace guaranteed by such a treaty might facilitate more contacts across the Taiwan Straits. The lawmaker said several of his colleagues also supported the plan and would present it to the Nationalist government after more endorsements are received. The Nationalists maintain they remain technically at war with the Peking government since losing a civil war to the Communists on the mainland and fleeing to Taiwan in 1949. The government has refused all official contacts with China. Premier Yu Kuo-Hwa said Tuesday the Nationalist government "may consider taking a new policy if Communist China declares openly to rule out the use of force against Taiwan." Yu made the remarks after several lawmakers asked the government to drop its policy of no contact with China.

Draft to expel fake-asylum seekers

BONN (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's cabinet approved a draft bill Tuesday to speed up the expulsion of bogus applicants for political asylum in West Germany. Government sources said the bill provided for one central authority in each of the nation's 10 states and West Berlin to decide on the expulsion of those whose applications were rejected. Previously, applica-

tions were dealt with by the authorities of towns or cities in which they were made. The bill proposed to continue the practice under which border officials can turn back applicants without basis for claims to be escaping political persecution. The interior ministry said 35 per cent of applicants came under this heading. West Germany has been flooded for years by people seeking political asylum, mainly from Asia, the Middle East and Africa. The government has said that in most cases they were in no danger of persecution, but seeking a better standard of living. The sources said that under the bill if a formal request for refuge was rejected, a low-level magistrate could refuse to allow legal costs to fund appeals to higher courts. The implication appeared to be that lawyers handling such cases would be reluctant to pursue them without a guaranteed fee.

2 killed in foiled Sao Tome coup

LISBON (AP) — Security forces in Sao Tome E Principe crushed an attempted coup Tuesday, killing two of 40 armed raiders who landed by canoe on the West African island nation, a government official said. Information minister official Joao Carlos said most of the assault party was captured as it attempted to seize the national police headquarters on the coast of the former Portuguese colony, close to the capital Sao Tome. One police officer was wounded in the raid and security forces were combing coastal areas for attackers still on the loose, Portuguese Radio reported from Sao Tome. Carlos, speaking in a telephone interview with Portuguese television, said forces loyal to the Marxist government of Sao Tome President Manuel Pinto Da Costa were securing key facilities including broadcasting stations and the airport. Da Costa appealed Tuesday night for vigilance against renewed attacks in a two-minute broadcast on national radio that followed an emergency cabinet meeting of the country's only political party, the Sao Tome E Principe Liberation Movement, the reports said. The president said calm had been restored on the two-island nation 160 kilometres west of Gabon on the West African coast within hours of the landings on two beaches between 3 and 4 a.m. local time (0300 and 0400 GMT). He blamed the attack on government opponents linked to the national resistance front of Sao Tome E Principe. Portuguese television said the raiders were suspected of launching the attack from Gabon, where the opposition movement is based.

Greek, Turkish premiers nominated for peace prize

ATHENS (AP) — Premiers Andreas Papandreou of Greece and Turgut Ozal of Turkey have been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, the semi-official Athens News Agency (ANA) said Tuesday. The leaders were nominated by Klaus Schwab, president of the World Economic Forum in Geneva, for their "genuine will to stop a long period of animosity" between their nations, the report said. Papandreou and Ozal met in Davos, Switzerland, during an international business conference hosted by Schwab in late January. At the meeting, which marked the first contact in 10 years between Greek and Turkish leaders, they agreed on a series of measures to solve problems between their nations. "Even though it may take many years for all pending issues between the two countries to be settled, the act of these two men merits distinction as an example of courage and goodwill," ANA quoted Schwab as saying in his letter to the director of the Nobel Institute, Jacob Sverdrup.

Shuttle landing site in Morocco

WASHINGTON (AP) — Construction has begun at an abandoned U.S. Strategic Air Command (SAC) base near Ben Guerir, Morocco, to create an emergency landing site for space shuttles when they begin flying again, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) said Tuesday. The former SAC base has a 4,200-metre runway, but its surface must be rejuvenated to make it usable by shuttles if for some reason they fail to reach the speeds necessary to get into orbit. The Ben Guerir base, 72 kilometres north of Marrakech, will be the fourth emergency site. NASA announced earlier in the week that another airport site in Northwest Africa, in Gambia, will be upgraded to accommodate shuttles.

Key arms drafts presented

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Soviet Union, accused of foot-dragging by American officials, has presented drafts of two key provisions of a treaty that would reduce sharply the number of U.S. and Soviet strategic nuclear weapons.

One of the documents submitted to American negotiators in Geneva deals with ways to guard

against cheating and the other with procedures for eliminating the weapons.

The aim is to have the treaty ready for the next superpower summit meeting.

The treaty would reduce the total arsenals of U.S. and Soviet long-range bombers, missiles and nuclear submarines by 30 per cent to 50 per cent.

CIA asked arms dealer to buy Soviet tanks

NEW YORK (AP) — An arms dealer charged with plotting to sell weapons to Argentina, Iraq, Poland and the Soviet Union was asked by U.S. intelligence officials to use his contacts in Poland to arrange the purchase of two Soviet "super tanks," his attorney said Tuesday.

Solomon Schwartz, 52, was sought out by the CIA in 1982 and later had contact with the Defence Intelligence Agency concerning the possible purchase of the Soviet T-72 tanks, said attorney Lawrence Dubin.

Schwartz negotiated with three Polish generals for the tanks but

was never materialised.

Dubin said in his opening statement at the trial of Schwartz and three co-defendants, who are also arms dealers.

The defendants are accused of plotting four illegal weapons deals, including smuggling military equipment to the Argentinean government during the Falkland Islands war and an unsuccessful attempt to ship guns to Iraq.

"They were willing to sell to anyone, no matter whose hands the weapons fell into, if the price was right," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Larry Krantz.

Gibraltar hunts for IRA suspect

NEW DELHI, India (Agencies)

— An opposition rally that drew 250,000 people to New Delhi Wednesday demanded the ouster of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and his government.

"Rajiv must go," they chanted in unison after hearing a resolution pledging to bring down the government.

Policemen armed with guns and riot sticks were on alert to counter any violence during the rally and a daylong strike called by opposition parties.

Police spokesman Ravi Pawar said no violence was reported.

"The entire police force is on guard to ensure that there is no untoward incident," Pawar said.

New Delhi's 35,000 police were aided by an estimated 5,000 paramilitary troops from the Central Reserve Police Force, according to a police officer who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The rally and general strike were called by the right-wing, Hindu-dominated Bharatiya Janata Party and the Lok Dal, a rural-based party.

Many shops closed in the centre of the capital, but government offices and most private business offices were open.

Police said at least 250,000 people had gathered by afternoon near parliament for the rally.

The rally and general strike were called by the right-wing, Hindu-dominated Bharatiya Janata Party and the Lok Dal, a rural-based party.

Some 100 militants brandishing assault rifles cheered when Jasbir Singh was proclaimed head priest of the Akal Takht (eternal throne) in the Golden Temple, the Sikhs' holiest shrine.

Jasbir Singh, 33, urged the 10,000 people packed into the huge temple complex to continue with Sikh freedom struggle, but he avoided mention of Khalistan, the independent Sikh homeland for which extremists are fighting.

Gandhi released Jasbir Singh and Sikhs' four other high priests last week as a peace offering to the militants. But the government warned them it would impose a state of emergency in the northern state if its concessions did not get a favourable response.

The Miami suit lists the Republic of Panama as the plaintiff and was set in motion by Panama's U.S. ambassador Juan B. Sosa, who has refused to recognise the Noriega government.

The money at issue is "a substantial amount," said Sosa's attorney Mark A. Cohen, but he refused to give a figure.

In London on Wednesday, Britain demanded that the Panamanian ambassador waive his diplomatic immunity and face police questioning about a raid he authorised on his country's consulate.

The Ambassador, Guillermo Vega, was summoned to the Foreign Office twice Tuesday to explain the bizarre incident.

U.S. pledges to boost economy after Noriega

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States pledged Tuesday to help Panama rebuild its battered economy and resume military aid once Panamanian strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega is ousted and a civilian democracy is established.

It also hailed a move by deposed President Eric Arturo Delvalle and opposition groups to set up a reconciliation government that could force Noriega not to be arrested.

Police said a 727-kilogramme bomb hidden in a hedge was defused not far from the Kilnem customs post between Newry, County Down and Dundalk in the Irish Republic on the main Belfast-to-Dublin road.

The device was one of the biggest discovered in Northern Ireland in several years.

Judge froze Panamanian assets in Miami banks after a suit was filed Tuesday to prevent Noriega's government from withdrawing any funds.

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WEEKEND CROSSWORD

FOUR-ALARMER
By Jeanne Wilcox

ACROSS
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2 Money
3 Merchandise
4 Little tuber
5 Plant scale;
6 Very poor
7 Astro capital
8 Baby's money
9 Bean
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11 Patty Duke's ex
12 Young animal
13 Stomach
14 Gossips
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16 Sausage
17 Sausage's dad
18 Little brother
19 Guitars
20 Cordless' dad
21 Smart guitar
22 Little brother
23 Manufacturing board
24 Hvy. metal
25 Put up
26 Shaken
27 Land war
28 Baby's
29 Wrecks
30 Kind of rag
31 Decorative
32 Household
33 Sausage's mom
34 Little brother
35 Ova
36 Rings
37 Anger
38 Dishes
39 Trips
40 Minor prophet
41 Minor prophet
42 Footwear
43 Country road
44 Footwear
45 Long period of
46 Elevator button
47 Long period of
48 Newspaper VSP
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56 Relaxed
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58 Pueblo Indian
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